AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Bill to amend the EPF & M.P. Act, 1952 for enabling the Central Government to frame a suitable pension scheme is already pending before the Rajya Sabha.

Execution of public sector projects

*687. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in respect of each of the public sector projects which are at present under execution;

(b) how many of these projects have so far utilised 50 percent or more of their allocated funds and how many of them have completed 50 per cent or more of the commissioning schedule and if not, what are the reasons therefor in each case;

(c) what action is proposed to be taken on the remaining projects in the light of the existing financial crunch;

(d) what are the reasons for the slow progress on these projects; and

(e) how far the postponement of the implementation of some of the projects will affect the production in the core sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) As on 1-1-94, 367 Central Sector Project costing Rs. 20 crore and above were under execution and on the monitor of Department of Programme Implementation. The Progress made in each of 367 Public Sector Projects is given in the Quarterly Project Implementation Status Report of Deptt. of Programme Implementation for the quarter ending December '93. Copies of this Report are available in the Parliament Library for reference.

(b) Out of 367 projects under execution as many as 142 projects have utilised more than 50 percent of their allocated fund i.e. latest approved cost and have also completed 50 percent or more of the latest approved commissioning schedule. The main reasons for not utilising the approved funds by the remaining projects are delay in land acquisition, fund constraints, inadequate project preparation, delay in supply of equipment etc. The Project-wise details are given in the Quarterly Report of Department of Programme Implementation, copies of which are available in Parliament Library.

(c) Various measures are being taken by the Government for speedy implementation of these projects such as intensive monitoring of projects at various levels, expediting the approval of Revised Cost Estimates, setting up of Task Force/Empowered Committees for finalisation of contract packages, land acquisition and other specific problems. To meet the resource gap mobilisation from the market is resorted to.

(d) The major reasons for slow progress of these projects are delay in land acquisition, inadequate project preparation, change in project scope, delay in award of contracts, slow progress by contractors, delay in supply of equipment, fund constraints and law and order problems and other unforeseen delays such as geological faults, etc.

(e) No postponement has taken place in the implementation of any project; though some of the projects are under consideration of the Government for transfer to the private/joint sector. The question of loss of production in the core sector does not arise